

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A data processor comprising:

a stream acquiring section for acquiring first and second streams;

an inserting section for inserting identification information between the first and second streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section;

a decoding section for sequentially decoding, on the basis of a predetermined unit, the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section and outputting decoded data; and

a detecting section for determining whether or not the identification information is included in a unit that is going to be decoded by the decoding section, wherein if the detecting section has detected the identification information, the decoding section does not output the data in the unit that is going to be decoded and starts to decode the next unit,

wherein the inserting section inserts the identification information into a point where the streams acquired by the stream acquiring section have their stream data discontinued so that a unit in one of the streams is incomplete,

wherein the first and second streams are transport streams.

20. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the inserting section inserts a dummy packet as the identification information, and wherein the dummy packet is replaced with an error code.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The data processor of claim 19, ~~wherein the stream is a transport stream~~ wherein the inserting section further inserts the identification information into the point where the streams acquired by the stream acquiring section

have their stream data discontinued so that the unit in the first stream is incomplete and a unit in the beginning of the second stream is not a frame header.

23. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the predetermined unit is picture data.

24. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 19, wherein the stream is not split on the basis of the predetermined unit but on a different unit basis.

25. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising the steps of:

- a) acquiring a first stream;
- b) if a second stream, of which the data is discontinuous with the first stream so that a unit in the first stream is incomplete, is acquired after the first stream, adding identification information to the end of the first stream;
- c) acquiring the second stream after the identification information;
- d) decoding the first stream, the identification information and the second stream in this order on the basis of a predetermined unit;
- e) determining whether or not the identification information is included in the unit to be decoded in the step d); and
- f) if the identification information has been detected, starting to decode the next unit without outputting the data in the unit that is going to be decoded, wherein the first and second streams are transport streams.

26. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein the identification information is a dummy packet which is replaced with an error code.

27. (Currently Amended) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein the ~~streams are transport streams~~ adding identification information to the end of the first stream further includes adding the identification to the beginning of the second stream.

28. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein the predetermined unit is picture data.

29. (Previously Presented) The data processing method of claim 25, wherein each of the first and second streams includes a number of units and a portion of a unit,[[and]] the first and second streams are split at the portions of the unit, and the beginning of the second stream is not a header frame.

30. (Currently Amended) A data processor comprising:
a stream acquiring section for acquiring first and second streams which include a number of units;
an inserting section for inserting identification information between the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section;
a decoding section for sequentially decoding the number of units in the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section and outputting decoded data; and
a detecting section for determining whether or not the identification information is included in one of the number of units, wherein if the detecting section has detected the identification information, the decoding section does not output the decoded data associated with the one of the number of units and starts to decode the next unit,
wherein the inserting section inserts the identification information into a point where the streams acquired by the stream acquiring section have their stream data discontinued so that a unit in the first stream is incomplete,
wherein the first and second streams are transport streams.

31. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein each of the first and second streams includes a portion of one of the number of units, and the first and second streams are split at the portions of the one of the number of units.

32. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein the inserting section inserts a dummy packet as the identification information, and wherein the dummy packet is replaced with an error code.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) The data processor of claim 30, wherein the ~~streams are transport streams~~inserting section further inserts the identification information to the end of the first stream and the beginning of the second stream, wherein the beginning of the second stream is not start of an I-frame header.

35. (Previously Presented) The data processor of claim 30, wherein the units include picture data.

36. (New) The data processor of claim 19, wherein if the detecting section has detected the identification information, the decoding section does not output an incomplete data, which follows the identification information and is ahead of a next I-frame header, when a unit of the beginning of the second stream is incomplete.

37. (New) The data processor of claim 36, wherein the incomplete data is not a portion of an I-frame picture data.

38. (New) A data processor comprising:
a stream acquiring section for acquiring first and second streams;
an inserting section for inserting identification information between the first and second streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section;
a decoding section for sequentially decoding, on the basis of a predetermined unit, the streams that have been acquired by the stream acquiring section and outputting decoded data; and

a detecting section for determining whether or not the identification information is included in a unit that is going to be decoded by the decoding section,

wherein if the detecting section has detected the identification information, the decoding section does not output the data in the unit that is going to be decoded and starts to decode the next unit,

wherein the inserting section inserts the identification information into a point where the streams acquired by the stream acquiring section have their stream data discontinued so that a unit in one of the streams is incomplete, wherein a beginning of the second stream is not an I-frame picture header.